

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of creating a conductive path between two or  
2 more conductive layers, wherein the conductive layers  
3 are separated by one or more dielectric layers, the  
4 method comprising:  
5 exposing portions of at least two conductive layers;  
6 applying a conductive material to the exposed portions  
7 of the conductive layers, the conductive material  
8 creating an electrical coupling between the  
9 conductive layers; and  
10 grounding at least one of the conductive layers to a  
11 controlled ground potential.
  
- 1 2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the portions  
2 of the conductive layers are exposed by recessing at  
3 least one of the conductive layers and any dielectric  
4 layers positioned between the conductive layers, the  
5 conductive material overhanging an uppermost of the  
6 conductive layers.

1 3. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein a material of  
2 one or more of the conductive layers is copper and a  
3 material of one or more of the conductive layers is  
4 stainless steel.

1 4. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the conductive  
2 material is selected from a group consisting of solder  
3 and a conductive adhesive.

1 5. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein one or more of  
2 the conductive layers is grounded to a controlled  
3 ground potential using one or more dedicated ground  
4 paths etched from one or more of the conductive  
5 layers.

1 6. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the exposed  
2 portion of at least one of the conductive layers  
3 includes a through-hole, where the conductive material  
4 is a rivet extending through the through hole.

1 7. A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the rivet  
2 creates a grounding path between a top grounded layer  
3 and one or more of the underlying conductive layers.

1 8. A method as recited in claim 6, wherein a material of  
2 one or more of the conductive layers is copper and a  
3 material of one or more of the conductive layers is  
4 stainless steel.

1 9. A method as recited in claim 6, wherein one or more of  
2 the conductive layers is grounded to a controlled  
3 ground potential using one or more dedicated ground  
4 paths etched from one or more of the conductive  
5 layers.

1 10. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the conductive  
2 material is a finger formed by etching, the finger  
3 extending from an uppermost of the conductive layers  
4 and pressed onto the exposed portion of an underlying  
5 conductive layer.

1 11. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein a material of  
2 one or more of the conductive layers is copper and a  
3 material of one or more of the conductive layers is  
4 stainless steel.

1 12. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein one or more  
2 of the conductive layers is grounded to a controlled  
3 ground potential using one or more dedicated ground  
4 paths etched from one or more of the conductive  
5 layers.

1 13. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the finger is  
2 welded and place.

1 14. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the conductive  
2 material is a finger formed by etching, the finger  
3 being sandwiched between a mount plate and an arm.

1 15. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein a material of  
2 one or more of the conductive layers is copper and a  
3 material of one or more of the conductive layers is  
4 stainless steel.

1 16. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein one or more  
2 of the conductive layers is grounded to a controlled  
3 ground potential using one or more dedicated ground  
4 paths etched from one or more of the conductive  
5 layers.

1 17. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the finger is  
2 welded in place.

1 18. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the conductive  
2 material is a finger formed by etching, the finger  
3 being sandwiched between a mount plate and a load  
4 beam.

1 19. A method as recited in claim 18, wherein a material of  
2 one or more of the conductive layers is copper and a  
3 material of one or more of the conductive layers is  
4 stainless steel.

1 20. A method as recited in claim 18, wherein one or more  
2 of the conductive layers is grounded to a controlled  
3 ground potential using one or more dedicated ground  
4 paths etched from one or more of the conductive  
5 layers.

1 21. A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the finger is  
2 welded in place.

1 22. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising an  
2 extraneous conductive layer, the conductive material  
3 being a dimple extending from the extraneous  
4 conductive layer and contacting the exposed portions  
5 of the conductive layers. /

1 23. A method as recited in claim 22, wherein the dimple  
2 extends through a via in at least one of the  
3 conductive layers.

1 24. A method as recited in claim 22, wherein a material of  
2 one or more of the conductive layers is copper and a  
3 material of one or more of the conductive layers is  
4 stainless steel.

1 25. A method as recited in claim 22, wherein one or more  
2 of the conductive layers is grounded to a controlled  
3 ground potential using one or more dedicated ground  
4 paths etched from one or more of the conductive  
5 layers.

1 26. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the portions  
2 of the conductive layers are exposed by punching a

3       hole through the conductive layers, the conductive  
4       material extending through the hole.

1   27. A method as recited in claim 26, wherein a material of  
2       one or more of the conductive layers is copper and a  
3       material of one or more of the conductive layers is  
4       stainless steel.

1   28. A method as recited in claim 26, wherein one or more  
2       of the conductive layers is grounded to a controlled  
3       ground potential using one or more dedicated ground  
4       paths etched from one or more of the conductive  
5       layers.